

§ 3400.5

planning process described in §§ 3420.3 through 3420.3-4 of this title which relate to competitive leasing in the region.

(c) The regional coal team shall also serve as the forum for Department/state consultation and cooperation in all other major Department coal management program decisions in the region, including preference right lease applications, public body and small business setaside leasing, emergency leasing and exchanges.

(d) The regional coal team recommendations on leasing levels under § 3420.2(a)(4) of this title and on regional lease sales under § 3420.3-4(g) shall be accepted except:

(1) In the case of an overriding national interest; or

(2) In the case the advice of the Governor(s) which is contrary to the recommendations of the regional coal team is accepted pursuant to § 3420.4-3(c) of this title. In cases where the regional coal team's advice is not accepted, a written explanation of the reasons for not accepting the advice shall be provided to the regional coal team and made available for public review.

(e) Additional representatives of state and Federal agencies may participate directly in team meetings or indirectly in the preparation of material to assist the team at any time at the request of the team chairperson. Participation may be solicited from state and Federal agencies with special expertise in topics considered by the team or with direct surface management responsibilities in areas potentially affected by coal management decisions. However, at every point in the deliberations, the official team spokespersons for the Bureau of Land Management and for the Governors shall be those designated under paragraph (a) of this section.

(f) If a state declines to participate under this section in the coal-related activities of the Department:

(1) The Department may take action authorized in Group 3400 of this title in a coal production region wholly within such a state without forming a regional coal team, and

(2) The Department may form a regional coal team without a representa-

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tive of the Governor of such a state in any multi-state coal production region.

(g) The regional coal team will function under the public participation procedures at §§ 1784.4-2, 1784.4-3, and 1784.5 of this chapter.

[44 FR 42609, July 19, 1979; 44 FR 56339, Oct. 1, 1979, as amended at 47 FR 33134, 33135, July 30, 1982; 51 FR 18887, May 23, 1986; 64 FR 52242, Sept. 28, 1999]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 64 FR 52242, Sept. 28, 1999, § 3400.4 was amended by revising paragraph (g), effective Oct. 28, 1999. For the convenience of the user, the superseded text is set forth as follows:

§ 3400.4 Federal/state government cooperation.

* * * * *

(g) The regional coal team shall function under the general provisions of the cooperative procedures of subpart 1784 of this title.

§ 3400.5 Coal production regions.

The Bureau of Land Management shall establish by publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER coal production regions. A coal production region may be changed or its boundaries altered by publication of a notice of change in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Coal production regions shall be used for establishing regional leasing levels under § 3420.2 of this title. Coal production regions shall be used to establish areas in which leasing shall be conducted under § 3420.3 of this title and for other purposes of the coal management program.

[47 FR 33135, July 30, 1982]

§ 3400.6 Minimum comment period.

Unless otherwise required in Group 3400 of this title, a minimum period of 30 days shall be allowed for public review and comment where such review is required for Federal coal management program activities under Group 3400 of this title.

[51 FR 18887, May 23, 1986]

PART 3410—EXPLORATION LICENSES

Subpart 3410—Exploration Licenses

Sec.

3410.0-1 Purpose.

3410.0-2 Objective.